stellar BANCORP, INC.

PRESS RELEASE

STELLAR BANCORP, INC. REPORTS FOURTH OUARTER AND FULL YEAR 2024 RESULTS

HOUSTON, January 30, 2025 - Stellar Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company" or "Stellar") (NYSE: STEL) today reported net income of \$27.8 million, or diluted earnings per share of \$0.52, for the fourth quarter of 2024 and net income of \$117.6 million, or diluted earnings per share of \$2.20, for the full year 2024.

"We are proud of our team and their work establishing the foundation of Stellar Bank," said Robert R. Franklin, Jr., Stellar's Chief Executive Officer. "Our strong foundation is a testament to their significant efforts over the past two years and they have prepared us for the year ahead. We intend to turn towards growth at a more normalized organic pattern while we keep an eye towards opportunities with downstream partners that would increase our operating leverage," Mr. Franklin continued.

"We remain focused on core fundamentals as we enter 2025 and are encouraged by the economic activity in our markets. We are excited about the future ahead of us," Mr. Franklin concluded.

2024 Financial Highlights

- Solid Profitability: Net income for the full year 2024 was \$117.6 million, or diluted earnings per share of \$2.20, which translated into a return on average assets of 1.10%, a return on average equity of 7.50% and a return on average tangible equity of 12.18%⁽¹⁾. Net income for the fourth quarter of 2024 was \$27.8 million, or diluted earnings per share of \$0.52, which translated into an annualized return on average assets of 1.04%, an annualized return on average equity of 6.85% and an annualized return on average tangible equity of 10.82%⁽¹⁾.
- Strong Net Interest Margin: Tax equivalent net interest margin was 4.24% for the year 2024 compared to 4.51% for 2023. The tax equivalent net interest margin, excluding purchase accounting accretion ("PAA"), was 3.89%⁽¹⁾ for 2024 compared to 4.03%⁽¹⁾ for 2023. Tax equivalent net interest margin for the fourth quarter of 2024 was 4.25% compared to 4.19% for the third quarter of 2024. The tax equivalent net interest margin, excluding PAA, was 3.94%⁽¹⁾ for the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to 3.91%⁽¹⁾ for the third quarter of 2024.
- *Meaningful Capital and Book Value Build:* Total risk-based capital ratio increased to 16.06% at December 31, 2024 from 14.02% at December 31, 2023, book value per share increased to \$30.14 from \$28.54 at December 31, 2023 and tangible book value per share increased to \$19.10⁽¹⁾ from \$17.02⁽¹⁾ at December 31, 2023.
- *Credit Metrics*: Nonperforming loans decreased \$2.0 million to \$37.2 million at December 31, 2024 from \$39.2 million at December 31, 2023.

Year 2024 Results

Net interest income for 2024 decreased \$28.8 million, or 6.6%, to \$408.0 million from \$436.8 million for 2023. The net interest margin on a tax equivalent basis decreased 27 basis points to 4.24% for the full year 2024 from 4.51% for the full year 2023. The decrease in the net interest margin from the prior year was primarily due to the impact of increased average interest-bearing liabilities and increased rates on interest-bearing liabilities, partially offset by increased rates on interest-earning assets. Net interest income for the year 2024 benefited from \$33.0 million of income from purchase accounting accretion compared to \$46.8 million for the year 2023. Excluding purchase accounting accretion, net interest income (tax equivalent) for the year 2024 would have been \$375.3 million⁽¹⁾ and the tax equivalent net interest margin would have been 3.89%⁽¹⁾.

Noninterest income for the year 2024 was \$23.0 million, a decrease of \$1.5 million, or 6.2%, compared to \$24.6 million for the year 2023. Noninterest income decreased in 2024 compared to 2023 primarily due to a decrease in debit card and ATM income, partially offset by the increase in gains on sales of assets and Small Business Investment Company income recognized in 2024 compared to 2023.

⁽¹⁾ Refer to page 10 of this earnings release for the calculation of this non-GAAP financial measure

Noninterest expense for the year 2024 decreased \$4.8 million, or 1.7%, to \$285.7 million compared to \$290.5 million for the year 2023. The decrease in noninterest expense in 2024 compared to 2023 was primarily due to \$15.6 million of acquisition and merger-related expenses recognized in 2023, a \$3.5 million decrease in regulatory assessments and a \$2.7 million decrease in amortization of intangibles, partially offset by a \$5.0 million increase in salaries and employee benefits.

The efficiency ratio was 66.39% for the year ended December 31, 2024 compared to 63.02% for the year ended December 31, 2023. Returns on average assets, average equity and average tangible equity were 1.10%, 7.50% and $12.18\%^{(1)}$ for 2024, respectively, compared to 1.21%, 8.96% and $15.75\%^{(1)}$ for 2023, respectively.

Fourth Quarter 2024 Results

Net interest income in the fourth quarter of 2024 increased \$1.5 million, or 1.4%, to \$103.0 million from \$101.5 million for the third quarter of 2024. The net interest margin on a tax equivalent basis increased 6 basis points to 4.25% for the fourth quarter of 2024 from 4.19% for the third quarter of 2024. The increase in the net interest margin from the prior quarter was primarily due to the impact of decreased rates on interest-bearing liabilities. Net interest income for the fourth quarter of 2024 benefited from \$7.6 million of income from purchase accounting accretion compared to \$6.8 million in the third quarter of 2024. Excluding purchase accounting accretion, net interest income (tax equivalent) for the fourth quarter of 2024 would have been \$95.5 million⁽¹⁾ and the tax equivalent net interest margin would have been 3.94%⁽¹⁾.

Noninterest income for the fourth quarter of 2024 was \$5.0 million, a decrease of \$1.3 million, or 20.2%, compared to \$6.3 million for the third quarter of 2024. Noninterest income decreased in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to the third quarter of 2024 primarily due to a loss on sales of assets in the fourth quarter of 2024 and Small Business Investment Company income recognized in the third quarter of 2024.

Noninterest expense for the fourth quarter of 2024 increased \$915 thousand, or 1.3%, to \$72.0 million compared to \$71.1 million for the third quarter of 2024. The increase in noninterest expense in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to the third quarter of 2024 was primarily due to an increase of \$1.7 million in professional fees and a \$715 thousand increase in advertising expense, partially offset by a \$611 thousand decrease in salaries and employee benefits and a \$631 thousand decrease in amortization of intangibles.

The efficiency ratio was 66.59% for the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to 66.18% for the third quarter of 2024. Annualized returns on average assets, average equity and average tangible equity were 1.04%, 6.85% and 10.82%⁽¹⁾ for the fourth quarter of 2024, respectively, compared to 1.27%, 8.49% and 13.63%⁽¹⁾ for the third quarter of 2024, respectively.

Financial Condition

Total assets at December 31, 2024 were \$10.91 billion, an increase of \$275.3 million, compared to \$10.63 billion at September 30, 2024.

Total loans at December 31, 2024 decreased \$111.3 million to \$7.44 billion compared to \$7.55 billion at September 30, 2024. At December 31, 2024, the remaining balance of the purchase accounting accretion on loans was \$73.7 million.

Total deposits at December 31, 2024 increased \$385.8 million to \$9.13 billion compared to \$8.74 billion at September 30, 2024, due to increases in interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing demand deposits, partially offset by decreases in certificates and other time deposits and money-market and savings accounts. Shifts in the deposit mix were primarily driven by the current interest rate environment and an intensely competitive market for deposits.

Asset Quality

Nonperforming assets totaled \$38.9 million, or 0.36% of total assets, at December 31, 2024, compared to \$35.1 million, or 0.33% of total assets, at September 30, 2024 and \$39.2 million at December 31, 2023. The allowance for credit losses on loans as a percentage of total loans was 1.09% at December 31, 2024, 1.12% at September 30, 2024 and 1.16% at December 31, 2023.

The fourth quarter of 2024 included a provision for credit losses of \$942 thousand compared to a reversal of provision for credit losses of \$6.0 million recorded during the third quarter of 2024. Net charge-offs for the fourth quarter of 2024 were \$2.0 million, or 0.11% (annualized) of average loans, compared to net charge-offs of \$3.9 million, or 0.21% (annualized) of average loans, for the third quarter of 2024.

The year ended December 31, 2024 included a reversal of provision for credit losses of \$2.9 million compared to a provision for credit losses of \$8.9 million recorded for the year ended December 31, 2023. Net charge-offs for the year ended December 31, 2024 were \$6.7 million, or 0.09% of average loans, compared to net charge-offs of \$11.1 million, or 0.14% of average loans, for the year ended December 31, 2023.

GAAP Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Stellar's management uses certain non-GAAP financial measures to evaluate its performance. Please refer to the GAAP Reconciliation and Management's Explanation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures on page 10 of this earnings release for a reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures.

Conference Call

Stellar's management team will host a conference call and webcast on Friday, January 31, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. Central Time (9:00 a.m. Eastern Time) to discuss its results for the fourth quarter and full year 2024. Participants may register for the conference call at https://registrations.events/direct/Q4I635866 conference ID 63586 to receive the dial-in numbers and unique PIN to access the call. If you need assistance in obtaining a dial-in number, please contact IR@stellar.bank. A simultaneous webcast is available at https://registrations.events/direct/Q4I635866 and requires pre-registration. If you are unable to participate during the live webcast, the webcast will be accessible via the Investor Relations section of the Company's website at ir.stellar.bank.

About Stellar Bancorp, Inc.

Stellar Bancorp, Inc. is a bank holding company headquartered in Houston, Texas. Stellar's principal banking subsidiary, Stellar Bank, provides a diversified range of commercial banking services primarily to small- to medium-sized businesses and individual customers across the Houston, Dallas, Beaumont and surrounding communities in Texas.

Investor Relations

IR@stellar.bank

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release which are not historical in nature are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, "forward-looking statements" for purposes of the safe harbor provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the benefits of the Company's merger with Allegiance Bancshares, Inc. (the "Merger"), including future financial performance and operating results, the Company's plans, business and growth strategies, objectives, expectations and intentions, and other statements that are not historical facts, including projections of macroeconomic and industry trends, which are inherently unreliable due to the multiple factors that impact economic trends, and any such variations may be material. Forward-looking statements may be identified by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "scheduled," "plans," "intends," "projects," "anticipates," "expects," "believes," "estimates," "potential," "would," or "continue" or negatives of such terms or other comparable terminology.

All forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Stellar to differ materially from any results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others: the risk that the cost savings and any revenue synergies from the Merger may not be fully realized or may take longer than anticipated to be realized; disruption to our business as a result of the Merger; the risk that the integration of operations will be materially delayed or will be more costly or difficult than we expected or that we are otherwise unable to successfully integrate our legacy businesses; the amount of the costs, fees, expenses and charges related to the Merger; reputational risk and the reaction of our customers, suppliers, employees or other business partners to the Merger; changes in the interest rate environment, the value of Stellar's assets and obligations and the availability of capital and liquidity; general competitive, economic, political and market conditions; and other factors that may affect future results of Stellar including changes in asset quality and credit risk; the inability to sustain revenue and earnings growth; changes in interest rates and capital markets; inflation; customer borrowing, repayment, investment and deposit practices; the impact, extent and timing of technological changes; capital management activities; disruptions to the economy and the U.S. banking system caused by recent bank failures, risks associated with uninsured deposits and responsive measures by federal or state governments or banking regulators, including increases in the cost of our deposit insurance assessments and other actions of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Texas Department of Banking and legislative and regulatory actions and reforms.

Additional factors which could affect the Company's future results can be found in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, in each case filed with the SEC and available on the SEC's website at https://www.sec.gov. We disclaim any obligation and do not intend to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this communication, which speak only as of the date hereof, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by federal securities laws. As forward-looking statements involve significant risks and uncertainties, caution should be exercised against placing undue reliance on such statements.

				20	24				2023		
	D	ecember 31	Se	eptember 30		June 30		March 31	D	ecember 31	
				(Dolla	ars in thousand	ls)				
ASSETS											
Cash and due from banks	\$	419,967	\$	103,735	\$	110,341	\$	74,663	\$	121,004	
Interest-bearing deposits at other financial institutions		491,249		412,482		379,909		325,079		278,233	
Total cash and cash equivalents		911,216		516,217		490,250		399,742		399,237	
Available for sale securities, at fair value		1,673,016		1,691,752		1,630,971		1,523,100		1,395,680	
Loans held for investment		7,439,854		7,551,124		7,713,897		7,908,111		7,925,133	
Less: allowance for credit losses on loans		(81,058)		(84,501)		(94,772)		(96,285)		(91,684)	
Loans, net	_	7,358,796	_	7,466,623	_	7,619,125	_	7,811,826	_	7,833,449	
Louis, net		1,336,190		7,400,023		7,019,123		7,611,620		7,633,449	
Accrued interest receivable		37,884		39,473		43,348		45,466		44,244	
Premises and equipment, net		111,856		113,742		113,984		115,698		118,683	
Federal Home Loan Bank stock		8,209		20,123		15,089		16,050		25,051	
Bank-owned life insurance		107,498		106,876		106,262		105,671		105,084	
Goodwill		497,318		497,318		497,318		497,318		497,318	
Core deposit intangibles, net		92,546		98,116		104,315		110,513		116,712	
Other assets		106,771		79,537		103,001		103,838		111,681	
Total assets	\$	10,905,110	\$	10,629,777	\$	10,723,663	\$	10,729,222	\$	10,647,139	
LIABILITIES:											
Deposits:											
Noninterest-bearing	\$	3,576,206	\$	3,303,048	\$	3,308,441	\$	3,323,149	\$	3,546,815	
Interest-bearing											
Demand		1,845,749		1,571,504		1,564,405		1,576,261		1,659,999	
Money market and savings		2,253,193		2,280,651		2,213,031		2,203,767		2,136,777	
Certificates and other time		1,453,236		1,587,398		1,639,426		1,691,539		1,529,876	
Total interest-bearing deposits		5,552,178		5,439,553		5,416,862		5,471,567		5,326,652	
Total deposits		9,128,384		8,742,601	_	8,725,303	_	8,794,716		8,873,467	
A served interest versals		17.052		16.015		10.227		10.007		11.200	
Accrued interest payable		17,052		16,915		12,327		12,227		11,288	
Borrowed funds		70.105		60,000		240,000		215,000		50,000	
Subordinated debt Other liabilities		70,105		110,064		109,964		109,864		109,765	
Total liabilities		79,104 9,294,645	_	74,074 9,003,654		70,274 9,157,868		9,198,524	_	9,126,121	
Total natimics	_	9,294,043	_	9,003,034	_	9,137,000	_	9,190,324	_	9,120,121	
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:											
Common stock		534		535		536		536		533	
Capital surplus		1,240,050		1,238,619		1,238,477		1,235,221		1,232,627	
Retained earnings		495,245		474,905		447,948		425,130		405,945	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(125,364)		(87,936)		(121,166)		(130,189)		(118,087)	
Total shareholders' equity		1,610,465		1,626,123		1,565,795		1,530,698		1,521,018	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$	10,905,110	\$	10,629,777	\$	10,723,663	\$	10,729,222	\$	10,647,139	

		1	hree Months End		Years Ended			
		20)24		2023	2024	2023	
	December 31	September 30	June 30	March 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	
INTEREST INCOME:								
Loans, including fees	\$ 128,738	\$ 132,372	\$ 135,885	\$ 134,685	\$ 139,114	\$ 531,680	\$ 537,722	
Securities:	Ψ 120,730	ψ 132,372	Ψ 155,005	Ψ 131,003	Ψ 137,111	\$ 331,000	Ψ 331,122	
Taxable	14,789	13,898	11,923	9,293	9,622	49,903	38,494	
Tax-exempt	814	814	816	818	418	3,262	2,553	
Deposits in other financial institutions	5,681	4,692	3,555	3,627	3,021	17,555	12,048	
Total interest income	150,022	151,776	152,179	148,423	152,175	602,400	590,817	
Total interest income	130,022	131,770	132,177	140,423	132,173	002,400	370,617	
INTEREST EXPENSE:								
Demand, money market and savings								
deposits	27,877	29,440	28,399	27,530	25,033	113,246	87,335	
Certificates and other time deposits	16,830	18,073	18,758	15,084	15,075	68,745	41,286	
Borrowed funds	235	840	1,700	1,774	4,154	4,549	17,807	
Subordinated debt	2,123	1,916	1,912	1,917	1,983	7,868	7,630	
Total interest expense	47,065	50,269	50,769	46,305	46,245	194,408	154,058	
NET INTEREST INCOME	102,957	101,507	101,410	102,118	105,930	407,992	436,759	
Provision for (reversal of) credit losses	942	(5,985)	(1,935)	4,098	1,047	(2,880)	8,943	
Net interest income after provision for		105 100	102 245	00.000	104.002	410.050	427.016	
credit losses	102,015	107,492	103,345	98,020	104,883	410,872	427,816	
NOMINTERECT INCOME.								
NONINTEREST INCOME:	1.500	1.504	1.640	1.500	1.520	C 420	6.064	
Service charges on deposit accounts	1,590	1,594 432	1,648	1,598	1,520	6,430	6,064	
(Loss) gain on sale of assets Bank-owned life insurance	(112) 622		(64) 591	513	198	769	390	
		614 551		587	573	2,414	2,178	
Debit card and ATM income	570		543	527	542	2,191	4,996	
Other	2,362	3,111	2,698	3,071	4,053	11,242	10,934	
Total noninterest income	5,032	6,302	5,416	6,296	6,886	23,046	24,562	
NONINTEREST EXPENSE:								
Salaries and employee benefits	40,512	41,123	39,061	41,376	40,464	162,072	157,034	
Net occupancy and equipment	4,401	4,570	4,503	4,390	4,572	17,864	16,932	
Depreciation	1,984	1,911	1,948	1,964	1,955	7,807	7,584	
Data processing and software	1,704	1,711	1,740	1,704	1,755	7,007	7,504	
amortization	5,551	5,706	5,501	4,894	5,000	21,652	19,526	
Professional fees	3,428	1,714	1,620	2,662	3,867	9,424	7,955	
Regulatory assessments and FDIC								
insurance	1,636	1,779	2,299	1,854	5,169	7,568	11,032	
Amortization of intangibles	5,581	6,212	6,215	6,212	6,247	24,220	26,883	
Communications	807	827	847	937	743	3,418	2,796	
Advertising	1,593	878	891	765	1,004	4,127	3,627	
Acquisition and merger-related expenses	<u> </u>	_	_	_	3,072	_	15,555	
Other	6,488	6,346	8,331	6,356	5,848	27,521	21,570	
Total noninterest expense	71,981	71,066	71,216	71,410	77,941	285,673	290,494	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	35,066	42,728	37,545	32,906	33,828	148,245	161,884	
Provision for income taxes	7,249	8,837	7,792	6,759	6,562	30,637	31,387	
NET INCOME	\$ 27,817	\$ 33,891	\$ 29,753	\$ 26,147	\$ 27,266	\$ 117,608	\$ 130,497	
EARNINGS PER SHARE								
Basic	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.51	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.45	
Diluted	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.51	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.45	

				T	hree	Months End	ed					Years	Ende	d
			2024							2023		2024	2023	
	Dec	cember 31	Sep	tember 30		June 30		March 31		cember 31	December 31		De	cember 31
				`		and share amo								
Net income	\$	27,817	\$	33,891	\$	29,753	\$	26,147	\$	27,266	\$	117,608	\$	130,497
Earnings per share, basic	\$	0.52	\$	0.63	\$	0.56	\$	0.49	\$	0.51	\$	2.20	\$	2.45
Earnings per share, diluted	\$	0.52	\$	0.63	\$	0.56	\$	0.49	\$	0.51	\$	2.20	\$	2.45
Dividends per share	\$	0.14	\$	0.13	\$	0.13	\$	0.13	\$	0.13	\$	0.53	\$	0.52
Return on average assets ^(A)		1.04 %		1.27 %		1.13 %		0.98 %		1.02 %		1.10 %		1.21 %
Return on average equity(A)		6.85 %		8.49 %		7.78 %		6.88 %		7.33 %		7.50 %		8.96 %
Return on average tangible equity ^{(A)(B)}		10.82 %		13.63 %		12.82 %		11.47 %		12.61 %		12.18 %		15.75 %
Net interest margin (tax equivalent) ^{(A)(C)}		4.25 %		4.19 %		4.24 %		4.26 %		4.40 %		4.24 %		4.51 %
Net interest margin (tax equivalent) excluding PAA ^{(A)(B)(C)}		3.94 %		3.91 %		3.82 %		3.91 %		3.91 %		3.89 %		4.03 %
Efficiency ratio ^(D)		66.59 %		66.18 %		66.63 %		66.18 %		69.21 %		66.39 %		63.02 %
Capital Ratios														
Stellar Bancorp, Inc. (Consolidated)														
Equity to assets		14.77 %		15.30 %		14.60 %		14.27 %		14.29 %		14.77 %		14.29 %
Tangible equity to tangible assets ^(B)		9.89 %		10.27 %		9.53 %		9.12 %		9.04 %		9.89 %		9.04 9
Estimated Total capital ratio (to risk- weighted assets)		16.06 %		15.91 %		15.34 %		14.62 %		14.02 %		16.06 %		14.02 9
Estimated Common equity Tier 1 capital (to risk weighted assets)		14.19 %		13.62 %		12.98 %		12.29 %		11.77 %		14.19 %		11.77 %
Estimated Tier 1 capital (to risk- weighted assets)		14.31 %		13.74 %		13.10 %		12.41 %		11.89 %		14.31 %		11.89
Estimated Tier 1 leverage (to average tangible assets)		11.30 %		11.25 %		10.93 %		10.55 %		10.18 %		11.30 %		10.18
Stellar Bank														
Estimated Total capital ratio (to risk-weighted assets)		15.34 %		15.07 %		14.65 %		14.13 %		13.65 %		15.34 %		13.65 %
Estimated Common equity Tier 1 capital (to risk-weighted assets)		14.19 %		13.63 %		13.12 %		12.61 %		12.20 %		14.19 %		12.20 9
Estimated Tier 1 capital (to risk- weighted assets)		14.19 %		13.63 %		13.12 %		12.61 %		12.20 %		14.19 %		12.20
Estimated Tier 1 leverage (to average		11.19 %		11.16 %		10.94 %		10.72 %		10.44 %		11.19 %		10.44 %
tangible assets)		11.19 %		11.10 %		10.94 %		10.72 %		10.44 %		11.19 %		10.44 %
Other Data														
Weighted average shares:														
Basic		53,422		53,541		53,572		53,343		53,282		53,469		53,229
Diluted		53,471		53,580		53,608		53,406		53,350		53,510		53,313
Period end shares outstanding		53,429		53,446		53,564		53,551		53,291		53,429		53,291
Book value per share	\$	30.14	\$	30.43	\$	29.23	\$	28.58	\$	28.54	\$	30.14	\$	28.54
Tangible book value per share ^(B)	\$	19.10	\$	19.28	\$	18.00	\$	17.23	\$	17.02	\$	19.10	\$	17.02
Employees - full-time equivalents	4	1,037	<u> </u>	1,040	Ψ	1,045	Ÿ	1,007	ų.	998	¥	1,037	<u> </u>	998
Employees full time equivalents		1,057		1,040		1,073		1,007		770		1,057		77

⁽A) Interim periods annualized.

⁽B) Refer to the calculation of these non-GAAP financial measures and a reconciliation to their most directly comparable GAAP financial measures on page 10 of this Earnings Release.

⁽C) Net interest margin represents net interest income divided by average interest-earning assets.

⁽D) Represents total noninterest expense divided by the sum of net interest income plus noninterest income, excluding net gains and losses on the sale of assets. Additionally, taxes and provision for credit losses are not part of this calculation.

Three		

		December 21 2022									
	Dec	cember 31, 20	024	Sep	tember 30, 20)24	December 31, 2023				
	Average Balance	Interest Earned/ Interest Paid	Average Yield/Rate	Average Balance	Interest Earned/ Interest Paid	Average Yield/Rate	Average Balance	Interest Earned/ Interest Paid	Average Yield/Rate		
				(Doll	ars in thousa	nds)					
Assets											
Interest-Earning Assets:											
Loans	\$ 7,477,332	\$ 128,738	6.85%	\$ 7,627,522	\$ 132,372	6.90%	\$ 7,973,780	\$ 139,114	6.92%		
Securities	1,702,111	15,603	3.65%	1,676,614	14,712	3.49%	1,386,079	10,040	2.87%		
Deposits in other financial institutions	473,719	5,681	4.77%	339,493	4,692	5.50%	217,068	3,021	5.52%		
Total interest-earning assets	9,653,162	\$ 150,022	6.18%	9,643,629	\$ 151,776	6.26%	9,576,927	\$ 152,175	6.30%		
Allowance for credit losses on loans	(84,423)			(94,785)			(92,992)				
Noninterest-earning assets	1,080,429			1,077,422			1,142,438				
Total assets	\$10,649,168			\$10,626,266			\$10,626,373				
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity											
Interest-Bearing Liabilities:											
Interest-bearing demand deposits	\$ 1,623,867	\$ 11,341	2.78%	\$ 1,606,736	\$ 12,458	3.08%	\$ 1,420,892	\$ 10,548	2.95%		
Money market and savings deposits	2,312,711	16,536	2.84%	2,254,767	16,982	3.00%	2,163,348	14,485	2.66%		
Certificates and other time deposits	1,538,785	16,830	4.35%	1,620,908	18,073	4.44%	1,461,227	15,075	4.09%		
Borrowed funds	15,978	235	5.85%	49,077	840	6.81%	275,694	4,154	5.98%		
Subordinated debt	101,394	2,123	8.33%	110,007	1,916	6.93%	109,713	1,983	7.17%		
Total interest-bearing liabilities	5,592,735	\$ 47,065	3.35%	5,641,495	\$ 50,269	3.54%	5,430,874	\$ 46,245	3.38%		
Noninterest-Bearing Liabilities:											
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits	3,342,636			3,303,726			3,624,417				
Other liabilities	99,006			93,127			95,705				
Total liabilities	9,034,377			9,038,348			9,150,996				
Shareholders' equity	1,614,791			1,587,918			1,475,377				
Total liabilities and shareholders'											
equity	\$10,649,168			\$10,626,266			\$10,626,373				
N. C. C. L.			2.020/			2.720/			2.020/		
Net interest rate spread			2.83%			2.72%			2.92%		
Not interest income and marsin		e 102.057	4.240/		¢ 101 507	4.100/		¢ 105 020	4.200/		
Net interest income and margin		\$ 102,957	4.24%		\$ 101,507	4.19%		\$ 105,930	4.39%		
Net interest income and net interest											
margin (tax equivalent)		\$ 103,039	4.25%		\$ 101,578	4.19%		\$ 106,121	4.40%		
		+ 100,000	20,0		+ 101,070	,,,		+ 100,121			
Cost of funds			2.10%			2.24%			2.03%		
Cost of deposits			2.02%			2.15%			1.84%		
r			2.0270			2.1070			1.0.70		

Years Ended December 31,

	Tears Ended December 31,												
				2024			2023						
		Average Balance		Interest Earned/ Interest Paid	Average Yield/Rate		Average Balance		Interest Earned/ Interest Paid	Average Yield/Rate			
					(Dollars i	n thous							
Assets													
Interest-Earning Assets:													
Loans	\$	7,712,122	\$	531,680	6.89%	\$	7,961,911	\$	537,722	6.75%			
Securities		1,593,073		53,165	3.34%		1,490,588		41,047	2.75%			
Deposits in other financial institutions		334,654		17,555	5.25%		242,803		12,048	4.96%			
Total interest-earning assets		9,639,849	\$	602,400	6.25%		9,695,302	\$	590,817	6.09%			
Allowance for credit losses on loans		(91,770)					(95,668)						
Noninterest-earning assets		1,098,395					1,147,232						
Total assets	\$	10,646,474				\$	10,746,866						
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity													
Interest-Bearing Liabilities:													
Interest-bearing demand deposits	\$	1,618,212	\$	48,290	2.98%	\$	1,464,015	\$	38,689	2.64%			
Money market and savings deposits		2,236,678		64,956	2.90%		2,259,264		48,646	2.15%			
Certificates and other time deposits		1,574,598		68,745	4.37%		1,239,345		41,286	3.33%			
Borrowed funds		77,662		4,549	5.86%		318,721		17,807	5.59%			
Subordinated debt		107,768		7,868	7.30%		109,560		7,630	6.96%			
Total interest-bearing liabilities		5,614,918	\$	194,408	3.46%		5,390,905	\$	154,058	2.86%			
Noninterest-Bearing Liabilities:													
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits		3,369,931					3,814,651						
Other liabilities		94,156					85,376						
Total liabilities		9,079,005					9,290,932						
Shareholders' equity		1,567,469					1,455,934						
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	10,646,474				\$	10,746,866						
Net interest rate spread					2.79%					3.23%			
Net interest fate spread					2.1970					3.23%			
Net interest income and margin			\$	407,992	4.23%			\$	436,759	4.50%			
Net interest income and net interest margin (tax equivalent)			\$	408,305	4.24%			\$	437,670	4.51%			
Cost of funds					2.16%					1.67%			
Cost of funds					2.10/0					1.07/0			

2.07%

1.47%

Cost of deposits

					Three	Months Ended					
				2			2023				
	<u>D</u>	ecember 31	S	September 30		June 30		March 31	D	ecember 31	
Period-end Loan Portfolio:				(Dolla	rs in thousands))				
Commercial and industrial	\$	1,362,260	\$	1.350.753	\$	1,396,064	\$	1,455,755	\$	1,414,102	
Real estate:	Ψ	1,502,200	Ψ	1,550,755	Ψ	1,570,004	Ψ	1,433,733	Ψ	1,414,102	
Commercial real estate (including multi-family residential)		3,868,218		3,976,296		4,029,671		4,049,885		4,071,807	
Commercial real estate construction and land development		845,494		890,316		922,805		1,039,443		1,060,406	
1-4 family residential (including home equity)		1,115,484		1,112,235		1,098,681		1,049,316		1,047,174	
Residential construction		157,977		161,494		200,134		252,573		267,357	
Consumer and other		90,421		60,030		66,542		61,139		64,287	
Total loans held for investment	\$	7,439,854	\$	7,551,124	\$	7,713,897	\$	7,908,111	\$	7,925,133	
D 4											
Deposits:	Φ.	2.576.206	Φ.	2 202 040	Ф	2 200 441	Ф	2 222 140	0	2.546.015	
Noninterest-bearing	\$	3,576,206	\$	3,303,048	\$	3,308,441	\$	3,323,149	\$	3,546,815	
Interest-bearing											
Demand		1,845,749		1,571,504		1,564,405		1,576,261		1,659,999	
Money market and savings		2,253,193		2,280,651		2,213,031		2,203,767		2,136,777	
Certificates and other time		1,453,236		1,587,398		1,639,426	_	1,691,539	_	1,529,876	
Total interest-bearing deposits		5,552,178	_	5,439,553	_	5,416,862	_	5,471,567	_	5,326,652	
Total deposits	\$	9,128,384	\$	8,742,601	\$	8,725,303	\$	8,794,716	\$	8,873,467	
Asset Quality:											
Nonaccrual loans	\$	37,212	\$	32,140	\$	50,906	\$	57,129	\$	39,191	
Accruing loans 90 or more days past due				_						_	
Total nonperforming loans		37,212		32,140		50,906		57,129		39,191	
Foreclosed assets		1,708		2,984		2,548		_		_	
Total nonperforming assets	\$	38,920	\$	35,124	\$	53,454	\$	57,129	\$	39,191	
Net charge-offs (recoveries)	\$	2,016	\$	3,933	\$	(1)	\$	714	\$	2,577	
Nonaccrual loans:											
Commercial and industrial	\$	8,500	\$	9,718	\$	18,451	\$	15,465	\$	5,048	
Real estate:											
Commercial real estate (including multi-family residential)		16,459		10,695		18,094		21,268		16,699	
Commercial real estate construction and land development		3,061		4,183		1,641		8,406		5,043	
1-4 family residential (including home equity)		9,056		7,259		12,454		10,368		8,874	
Residential construction		_		121		155		1,410		3,288	
Consumer and other		136		164		111		212		239	
Total nonaccrual loans	\$	37,212	\$	32,140	\$	50,906	\$	57,129	\$	39,191	
Asset Quality Ratios:											
Nonperforming assets to total assets		0.36 %		0.33 %		0.50 %		0.53 %		0.37 %	
Nonperforming loans to total loans		0.50 %		0.43 %		0.66 %		0.72 %		0.49 %	
Allowance for credit losses on loans to nonperforming loans		217.83 %		262.92 %		186.17 %		168.54 %		233.94 %	
Allowance for credit losses on loans to total loans		1.09 %		1.12 %		1.23 %		1.22 %		1.16 %	
Net charge-offs to average loans (annualized)		0.11 %		0.21 %		0.00 %		0.04 %		0.13 %	

Stellar Bancorp, Inc. GAAP Reconciliation and Management's Explanation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures (Unaudited)

Stellar's management uses certain non-GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) financial measures to evaluate its performance. Stellar believes that these non-GAAP financial measures provide meaningful supplemental information regarding its performance and that management and investors benefit from referring to these non-GAAP financial measures in assessing Stellar's performance and when planning, forecasting, analyzing and comparing past, present and future periods. Specifically, Stellar reviews pre-tax, pre-provision income, pre-tax pre-provision ROAA, tangible book value per share, return on average tangible equity, tangible equity to tangible assets and net interest margin (tax equivalent) excluding PAA for internal planning and forecasting purposes. Stellar has included in this earnings release information relating to these non-GAAP financial measures for the applicable periods presented. These non-GAAP measures should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for the most directly comparable or other financial measures calculated in accordance with GAAP. Moreover, the manner in which Stellar calculates the non-GAAP financial measures may differ from that of other companies reporting measures with similar names.

	Three Months Ended									Years Ended				
	_			20	24					2023		2024		2023
	Ι	December 31	S	eptember 30		June 30		March 31	I	December 31	D	ecember 31	D	ecember 31
				(Dolla	ars a	ınd share amo	unt	s in thousands	, ex	cept per share	dat	a)		
Net income	\$	27,817	\$	33,891	\$	29,753	\$	26,147	\$	27,266	\$	117,608	\$	130,497
Add: Provision for credit losses		942		(5,985)		(1,935)		4,098		1,047		(2,880)		8,943
Add: Provision for income taxes		7,249		8,837		7,792	_	6,759		6,562		30,637		31,387
Pre-tax, pre-provision income	\$	36,008	\$	36,743	\$	35,610	\$	37,004	\$	34,875	\$	145,365	\$	170,827
m . 1		10.640.160	•	10.000.000	•	10.622.065	•	10.000 =00	•	10.606.000	•	10.646.454	•	10.716.066
Total average assets	\$	10,649,168	\$	10,626,266	\$	10,623,865	\$	10,686,789	\$	10,626,373	\$	10,646,474	\$	10,746,866
Pre-tax, pre-provision return on average assets ^(B)		1.35 %		1.38 %		1.35 %		1.39 %		1.30 %		1.37 %		1.59 %
Total shough aldow?	ø	1 (10 4(5	e.	1 (2(122	ø	1 5 (5 70 5	¢.	1.520.600	¢.	1 521 010	e	1 (10 4(5	¢.	1 521 010
Total shareholders' equity Less: Goodwill and core deposit	\$	1,610,465	\$	1,626,123	\$	1,565,795	\$	1,530,698	\$	1,521,018	\$	1,610,465	\$	1,521,018
intangibles, net		589,864		595,434		601,633		607,831		614,030		589,864		614,030
Tangible shareholders' equity	\$	1,020,601	\$	1,030,689	\$	964,162	\$	922,867	\$	906,988	\$	1,020,601	\$	906,988
Shares outstanding at end of period		53,429		53,446		53,564		53,551		53,291		53,429		53,291
Tangible book value per share	\$	19.10	\$	19.28	\$	18.00	\$	17.23	\$	17.02	\$	19.10	\$	17.02
	Φ.	1 (14 701	Φ.	1.505.010	•	1 520 124	Ф	1.500.000	•	1 475 277	Φ.	1.565.460	Ф	1 455 024
Average shareholders' equity	\$	1,614,791	\$	1,587,918	\$	1,538,124	\$	1,528,298	\$	1,475,377	\$	1,567,469	\$	1,455,934
Less: Average goodwill and core deposit intangibles, net		592,471		598,866		604,722		611,149		617,236		601,768		627,449
Average tangible shareholders'	_	, , ,	_	,	_	, , ,	_			,	_	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	_	,
equity	\$	1,022,320	\$	989,052	\$	933,402	\$	917,149	\$	858,141	\$	965,701	\$	828,485
Return on average tangible equity ^(B)		10.82 %		13.63 %		12.82 %		11.47 %		12.61 %		12.18 %		15.75 %
Total assets	\$	10,905,110	\$	10,629,777	\$	10,723,663	\$	10,729,222	\$	10,647,139	\$	10,905,110	\$	10,647,139
Less: Goodwill and core deposit intangibles, net		589,864		595,434		601,633		607,831		614,030		589,864		614,030
Tangible assets	\$	10,315,246	\$	10,034,343	\$	10,122,030	\$	10,121,391	\$	10,033,109	\$	10,315,246	\$	10,033,109
g	Ť	,	Ť	,	Ť	,,	Ť	,,	Ť	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Ť	,	Ť	,,
Tangible equity to tangible assets		9.89 %		10.27 %		9.53 %		9.12 %		9.04 %		9.89 %		9.04 %
Net interest income (tax equivalent)	\$	103,039	\$	101,578	\$	101,482	\$	102,207	\$	106,121	\$	408,305	\$	437,670
Less: Purchase accounting accretion		7,555		6,795		10,098		8,551		11,726		32,999		46,802
Adjusted net interest income (tax equivalent)	\$	95,484	\$	94,783	\$	91,384	\$	93,656	\$	94,395	\$	375,306	\$	390,868
Average earning assets	\$	9,653,162	\$	9,643,629	\$	9,616,874	\$	9,645,544	\$	9,576,927	\$	9,639,849	\$	9,695,302
Net interest margin (tax equivalent) excluding PAA		3.94 %		3.91 %		3.82 %		3.91 %		3.91 %		3.89 %		4.03 %

⁽A) Represents total noninterest expense, excluding acquisition and merger-related expenses, core deposit intangibles amortization and write-downs on assets moved to held for sale, divided by the sum of net interest income, excluding purchase accounting adjustments plus noninterest income, excluding gains and losses on the sale of assets. Additionally, taxes and provision for credit losses are not part of this calculation.

⁽B) Interim periods annualized.